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Governor

# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

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## Minutes

### **Board of Building Regulations and Standards**

### **Structural (SAC) Advisory Committee**

**Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, 41 Seyon St #500, Waltham, MA 02453**

**April 10, 2014, 8:30 a.m.**

1. JZ called the meeting to order (8:34) and then Roll Call was taken:

a. Joe Zona Chair (JZ)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent	g. Michael Fillion (MF)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent
b. Richard Henige V-Chair (RH)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent	h. Richard Crosswell (RC)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent
c. Mehul Dhruv (MD)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent	i. William Hagen (WH)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent
d. Nicholas Mariani (NM)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent	j. Dominic Kelly (DK)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent
e. Garrett McLean (GM)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent	k. Michael Berry (MB)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent
f. Rob Anderson (or designee)	x present <input type="checkbox"/> absent		

General note on format: votes are noted as (Motion by, Second by, All if the vote is unanimous) followed by the time.

2. SAC reviewed and approved the minutes from the October 17, 2013 meeting (DK, RH, All) 8:37 One typographical change ('in' added to last line of 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet) was made.

3. Discussion ensued on a code proposal to address an issue with reinforcing in masonry shear walls as described below:

Chapter 21 may cause some significant cost increases on buildings with reinforced masonry shear walls. The amendments do not allow Ordinary Reinforced Masonry shear walls. They also require that Intermediate Reinforced Masonry shear walls be designed as Special Reinforced Masonry shear walls with a couple exceptions. This alone is not necessarily a big deal. The bigger problem is the new section 1.17.3.2.6 (f) that was added to ASCE 7-05. This requires that all horizontal reinforcing be bars in grouted bond courses. It essentially precludes the use of joint reinforcing and results in bond beams at 4'-0" o.c when read in conjunction with 1.17.3.2.6 (b). In the past, the requirements were bond beams at 8'-10' o.c. and joint reinforcing at 16" o.c. so this is a dramatic change.

SAC discussed the MA amendments contained in 2106.2 as their applicability in MA in light of new reinforcing products and test data that may be available in masonry shear walls. An action was taken by GM, NM, and MD to provide SAC a recommendation for the next meeting.

4. MA amendments to the *International Existing Building Code 2009* (Chapter 34) have just been issued. Questions have arisen pertaining to the new amendment to 907.3.1. SAC was tasked with review of, and if necessary an additional change to, this section which currently reads:

**907.3.1** Replace first paragraph and Exception 1 as follows:

**907.3.1 Compliance with the International Building Code level seismic forces.** Where a building or portion thereof is subject to a *change of occupancy* that results in the building being assigned to a higher occupancy category based on 780 CMR Table 1604.5, the building shall comply with seismic forces as specified in Section 101.5.4.1 for the new occupancy category.

**Exceptions:**

1. Any occupancy being changed to Group A, E, I-1, R-1, R-2 or R-4 occupancies for buildings less than six stories in height and in Seismic Design Category A, B or C.

SAC reviewed a code analysis by a MA structural engineer and code logic and requirements of this section. It was also noted that the genesis of this amendment was not entirely clear and that more work was necessary before a SAC decision could be reached. In light of apparent or potential consequences of the April 11, 2014 MA amendment to Section 907.3.1 the SAC approved either deletion of or further amendment of Section 907.3.1 and will have the proposal available for BBRS consideration at its June 8, 2014 meeting. (WH, RH, Approved) MB abstain (10:55)

5. Other matters not reasonably anticipated 2 business days in advance of meeting.
- a. MG reviewed the Open Meeting Law requirements for remote participation of meeting members. (10:57)
6. SAC approved adjournment of the meeting. (RH, MB, All) 11:12